

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~producing a mould plate former, producing a mould plate using the mould plate former and~~ manufacturing chocolates with a thin design of at least one other colour thereon, the method including the steps of:

engraving a plurality of images, corresponding to the design, on a graphics plate at preselected locations:

obtaining ~~producing~~ a mould plate former by assembling a former plate, having a planar surface bounded by a border corresponding to the external dimensions of the mould plate; producing a plurality of former shapes, corresponding to the recesses to be formed in the mould plate;

locating the former shapes in a template operable to locate the former shapes on the former plate; applying adhesive to the former shapes; and

locating the former shapes on the former plate, using the template, to fix the former shapes to the former plate; producing a rubber mould plate using the mould plate former by mixing a silicone rubber compound with a hardener to form a solution; applying a vacuum to the solution to remove at least the majority of the air bubbles in the solution; pouring a preset weight of the solution into a mould former, and allowing the solution to settle; applying a clamping pressure to the mould assembly and allowing the silicone rubber to at least initially cure; and allowing the rubber to post cure before use;

applying chocolate of at least a first colour to the graphics plate to fill the engraved image thereon, to form the design, and removing any excess chocolate;

locating the mould plate on the graphics plate with the recesses in the mould plate in register with the designs of the at least first colour chocolate;

filling the recesses with another colour chocolate;

allowing the chocolate to set; and

removing the final chocolates from the mould plate.

12-20. (Cancelled)

21. (New) A method of manufacturing chocolates with a thin design of at least one other colour thereon, the method including the steps of:

- obtaining a graphics plate having a plurality of images engraved thereon corresponding to the design;

- obtaining a mould plate by allowing a silicone rubber compound to at least initially cure on a mould plate former including former shapes and allowing the rubber compound to post cure before use, the cured mould plate including a negative form of said former shapes;

- applying chocolate of at least a first colour to the graphics plate to fill the engraved image thereon, to form the design, and removing any excess chocolate;

- locating the mould plate on the graphics plate, with the recesses present in the mould plate corresponding to the former shapes in register with the designs of the at least first colour chocolate;

- filing the recesses with another color chocolate;

- allowing the chocolate to set; and

- removing the final chocolates from the mould plate.

22. (New) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein after the chocolate is allowed to set, further trimming the mould plate to enable a coloured chocolate border of the same or a different colour to be formed around the designs of the first colour chocolate.

23. (New) The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein after the chocolate is allowed to set, further trimming the mould plate to enable a coloured chocolate border of the same or a different colour to be formed around the designs of the first colour chocolate.